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| 32864 7590 02/22/2007<br>FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C.<br>PO BOX 1022<br>MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>KEEFER, MICHAEL E |                  |
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|   |             |                      | 2109                          |                  |

| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | MAIL DATE  | DELIVERY MODE |
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/673,561

Applicant(s)

SPRIESTERSBACH ET AL.

Examiner

Michael E. Keefer

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/06/2004, 11/25/2003
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Application filed 09/30/2003.

#### *Claim Objections*

2. Claims 1-2, 5, 8, 10-14, 16, and 20 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding **claim 1**, in line 7 the words --of the-- should be inserted between "one" and "markup" to improve the clarity of the claim.

In addition, in line 7 the word "representation" should be deleted and replaced with the word --representations-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 2**, in line 1 the phrase --the step of-- should be inserted between "wherein" and "generating" to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 5**, in line 1 the phrase --the step of-- should be inserted between "wherein" and "associating" to improve the clarity of the claim.

In addition, in line 2, the word --the-- should be inserted between the words "associating" and "meta" to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 8**, in line 1 the phrase --the step of-- should be inserted between "wherein" and "transforming" to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 10**, in line 2, the word "of" should be deleted and replaced with the word --of:-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 11**, in line 1, the word "generic" should be deleted to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 12**, in line 5, it is suggested that the phrase "source document" be deleted to improve the clarity of the claim.

In addition, it is suggested that in line 7 the word "an" be deleted and replaced with the word --the--.

It is further suggested that in line 8 the phrase --of the-- be inserted between the words "one" and "markup" to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 13**, it is suggested that in line 4, the word "events;" be deleted and replaced with the phrase --at least one event;-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

It is further suggested that in line 6, the word "events," be deleted and replaced with the phrase --at least one event,-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

It is additionally suggested that in line 6, the word "an" be deleted and replaced with the word --the-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

It is also suggested that in line 8, the phrase --of the one or more-- be inserted between "one" and "markup" to improve the clarity of the claim.

It is suggested that in line 8, the word "events" be deleted and replaced with the phrase --at least one event-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 14**, it is suggested that in line 1 the phrase "further comprising a server device" be deleted and replaced with the phrase --the server device further-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

Regarding **claim 16**, it is suggested that in line 2 the word "a" be deleted and replaced with the word --the-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

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Regarding **claim 20**, it is suggested that in line 1 the phrase "the one or more filters are" be deleted and replaced with the phrase --the fragmentation filter is-- to improve the clarity of the claim.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Regarding **claim 1**, which is directed to a method comprising the steps of generating, associating, transforming, sending, and receiving. In order for claimed subject matter to be statutory it must have a concrete, useful, and tangible result. In this case the result is concrete and useful but it is not tangible. The mere act of receiving an event from a client is not a tangible "real world" result as no data is stored for later use nor is anything made available to a user to be able to detect.

**Claims 2-11** which are dependent upon claim 1 do not add any tangible result and thus are rejected for the same.

Regarding **claim 12**, which is directed to a method comprising the steps of generating, associating, transforming, sending, and receiving. In order for claimed subject matter to be statutory it must have a concrete, useful, and tangible result. In this case the result is concrete and useful but it is not tangible. The mere act of receiving an

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event from a client is not a tangible "real world" result as no data is stored for later use nor is anything made available to a user to be able to detect.

Regarding **claim 13**, which is directed to an apparatus comprising a server device configured to perform the steps of generating, associating, transforming, sending, and receiving. In order for claimed subject matter to be statutory it must have a concrete, useful, and tangible result. In this case the result is concrete and useful but it is not tangible. The mere act of receiving an event from a client is not a tangible "real world" result as no data is stored for later use nor is anything made available to a user to be able to detect.

**Claim 14**, which is dependent on claim 13 fails to add any tangible result to subject matter and is thus rejected for the same.

Regarding **claim 15**, which is directed to an apparatus comprising an adaptation framework. In order for a claim to be statutory it must be directed to a process, machine, article of manufacture or composition of matter. Claim 15 lacks any statutory structure as it merely recites a software program, a statutory category since it is clearly not a series of steps or acts to constitute a process, not a mechanical device or combination of mechanical devices to constitute a machine, not a tangible physical article or object which is some form of matter to be a product and constitute a manufacture, and not a composition of two or more substances to constitute a composition of matter.

In addition, the claimed subject matter must have a useful, concrete and tangible result in order to be statutory. In this case the subject matter has a useful and concrete result but it is not tangible. The mere act of fragmenting a document is not a "real world"

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result as nothing is made available for use by a user nor is a result stored anywhere for use.

**Claims 16-21**, which are dependent upon claim 15 fail to add any statutory subject matter to the claim and therefore are rejected for the same.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 2, and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schwerdtfeger et al. (US 6829746), hereafter Schwerdtfeger.

Regarding **claim 1**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

A method comprising:

generating a source document (electronic document 12, which inherently must be generated in order to exist), the source document including at least one event (Col 6, lines 40-45 describe that the source document contains elements, and Col 9, lines 33-42 describe that the elements may include events from JAVAscript such as mouseover events.);

associating meta information with one or more of the events; (Col. 9 lines 40-42 describe that the event is associated with an element (i.e. metadata).)

transforming the events into one or more markup language specific representations of the events (Col 6, lines 53-66 describe that a DOM previously generated is transformed into a scripting language understood by the client, e.g. a subset of HTML, XML, Postscript, PDF, or AFP), the transformation of an event being controlled at least in part by the associated meta-information; (Col 9, lines 40-45 state that the script includes the element and the identifier assigned to the element, thus the transformation is controlled by the metadata that it is associated with (the element and its identifier).

sending at least one markup language specific representation of the events to a browser running on a client device (Col. 7 lines 7-8 state that the transformed script is sent to the user agent of the client machine.); and

receiving from the client device one or more markup language specific events coded as HTTP-request parameters. (Col. 7, lines 36-38 states that the client device provides an event with an element and identifier to the transcoder device. Col 8, lines 40-42 state that the HTTP 1.1 standard is used for communication between the client and transcoder proxy.)

Regarding **claim 2 and as applied to claim 1**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

wherein generating the source document comprises generating the source document to include at least one generic, markup language independent, event. (Javascript is generic and markup language independent as it can be used with HTML and XML.)

Regarding **claim 3 and as applied to claim 1**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

wherein the source document is a web document. (Col 6, lines 23-26 list web document formats as possible formats for the source document making the source document a web document.)

Regarding **claim 8 and as applied to claim 1**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

transforming the events comprises automatically transforming the events. (Col. 6 lines 35-37 state that the transformation begins automatically after the server provides the document.)

Regarding **claim 10 and as applied to claim 1**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

wherein the one or more markup language specific representations comprise one or more of an HTML representation, a WML representation, and a cHTML representation. (Col 6, lines 53-66 describe that the DOM previously generated is transformed into a scripting language understood by the client, e.g. a subset of HTML, XML, Postscript, PDF, or AFP. HTML, WML, and cHTML are all subsets of HTML.)

Regarding **claim 11 and as applied to claim 1**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

wherein the generic events comprise one or more of a navigation event, an input event, a relation event, and a submission event. (A DOM supports many events, however, in Col. 9 lines 33-36 a mouse over event is specifically disclosed as an example, which is an input event.)

Regarding **claim 13**, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

An apparatus comprising:

a server device (interim server 26) configured to:

generate a source document, the source document including at least one generic, markup language independent, event (Col. 6, lines 35-37 state that a pre-transcoded DOM is created, lines 40-45 state that the pre-transcoded DOM has methods of accessing and manipulating the document, which are events. A DOM event is inherently markup language independent.);

associate meta information with one or more of the events; (Col. 9 lines 41-43 state that the mouseover event Javascript code (metadata) is associated with the element (event).)

transform the events into one or more markup language specific representations of the events, the transformation of an event being controlled at least in part by the associated meta- information (Col. 6, lines 53-63 describe how a script is generated from the original document. Col. 9, lines 46-50 state that during the transcoding the script may include information about the code of a JavaScript event, thus the transformation is controlled by the metadata associated with the event, because the code will be associated with the element in the script);

send at least one markup language specific representation of the events to a browser running on a client device (Col. 7, lines 7-8 state that the script is provided to the client machine); and

receive from the client device one or more markup language specific events coded as HTTP-request parameters. (Col. 7 36-37 state

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that events are returned to the transcoder proxy (i.e. interim server 26),  
Col. 8 lines 40-44 state that HTTP 1.1 is used to communicate between  
the server and client.)

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwerdtfeger as applied to claims 1 and 3 above, and further in view of McCarron et al. ("XML Events: An Events Syntax for XML"), hereafter McCarron.

Schwerdtfeger discloses all the limitations of claim 4 except for the event being described in a generic, device-independent document description language based on XML and that metadata is manually associated with the event.

The general concept of describing events in a generic, device-independent document description language based on XML is well known in the art as taught by McCarron (which discloses modifying XML to generically describe events).

The general concept of manually associating metadata with an event is well-known in the art as taught by McCarron (Section 2.2 describes attaching attributes to observer elements (i.e. events)).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Schwerdtfeger with the general concept of a generic, device-independent document description language based on XML and the general concept of manually associating metadata with an event as taught by McCarron in order to "provide an interoperable way of associating behaviors with document-level markup." (McCarron, Abstract lines 3-4.)

8. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwerdtfeger as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Musciano et al. (HTML: the Definitive Guide), hereafter Musciano.

Schwerdtfeger discloses all the limitations of claim 6 except for metadata including multiple representations of one element.

The general concept of metadata including alternate representations of an element is well known in the art as taught by Musciano (pg. 134, section 5.2.6.3, the alt attribute is metadata for a image that can be used in cases where a browser cannot display images, in other words a different representation of the image.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schwerdtfeger with the general concept of metadata including alternate representations of an element as taught by Musciano in order to allow the user to have some indication of what is missing when an image cannot be displayed. (Musciano, Last line of page 134)

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9. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwerdtfeger as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of McCauley et al. (US 6434578), hereafter McCauley.

Schwerdtfeger discloses all the limitations of claim 7 except for meta-information enables elements to be declared to be optional and to be omitted on a client device with insufficient resources.

The general concept of meta-information enabling data processing decisions is well known in the art as taught by McCauley (Fig. 9, Fig. 12, Fig. 13, Col. 11 lines 57-67, Col 12 lines 1-38 teach that based off of the meta-information in Fig. 9, the result is processed differently depending upon client resources (i.e. the image is omitted as non-essential in the low speed connection case of Fig. 12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the method of Schwerdtfeger with the general concept of meta-information enabling data processing decisions as taught by McCauley in order to be more efficient (McCauley Col 2, lines 33-36).

10. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwerdtfeger and McCarron.

Regarding claim 12, Schwerdtfeger discloses:

A method comprising:

generating a source document, the source document including at least one generic, markup language independent, event; (Col 6, lines 40-45 describe

that the source document contains elements, and Col 9, lines 33-42 describe that the elements may include events from JavaScript such as mouseover events. Javascript is generic and markup language independent as it can be used with HTML and XML.)

automatically transforming the source document generic events into one or more markup language specific representations of the source document events, (Col 6, lines 53-66 describe that a DOM previously generated is transformed into a scripting language understood by the client, e.g. a subset of HTML, XML, Postscript, PDF, or AFP. Col. 6 lines 35-37 state that the transformation begins automatically after the server provides the document.) the transformation of an event being controlled at least in part by the associated meta-information; (Col 9, lines 40-45 state that the script includes the element and the identifier assigned to the element, thus the transformation is controlled by the metadata that it is associated with (the element and its identifier).

sending at least one markup language specific representation of the events to a browser running on a client device (Col. 7 lines 7-8 state that the transformed script is sent to the user agent of the client machine.); and

receiving from the client device one or more markup language specific events coded as HTTP-request parameters. (Col. 7, lines 36-38 states that the client device provides an event with an element and identifier to the transcoder device. Col 8, lines 40-42 state that the HTTP 1.1 standard is used for communication between the client and transcoder proxy.)

Schwerdtfeger discloses all the limitations of claim 12 except for manually associating metadata with the event.

The general concept of manually associating metadata with an event is well-known in the art as taught by McCarron (Section 2.2 describes attaching attributes to observer elements (i.e. events)).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Schwerdtfeger with the general concept of manually associating metadata with an event as taught by McCarron in order to "provide an interoperable way of associating behaviors with document-level markup." (McCarron, Abstract lines 3-4.)

11. Claims 9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwerdtfeger as applied to claims 1 and 13 above, and further in view of Halahmi (US 2003/0011631).

Schwerdtfeger discloses all the limitations of claims 9 and 14 except for fragmenting the document and transforming the fragments into language specific representations based off of limitations of a client device.

The general concept of fragmenting documents and processing them based off of device properties is well known in the art as taught by Halahmi (see Fig. 2, note that a specific representation of each delimited section (fragment) is created in step 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the method of Schwerdtfeger with the general concept

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of fragmenting documents and processing them based off of device properties as taught by Huttunen in order to increase the speed of transmission of a document.

(Halahmi, [00026] lines 1-4)

12. Claims 15-16, and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCauley and Huttunen (US 2003/0069881).

Regarding claims 15-16 McCauley discloses:

An apparatus comprising:

an adaptation framework comprising:

an event dispatcher configured to process an incoming event and control an invocation of one or more processes based upon the event; (Dispatcher 40, the incoming event is a request for an information page (see Col 6, lines 12-14) the dispatcher controls the page renderers which are invoked based from the information page information)

a fragment getter invoked by the event dispatcher and configured to retrieve a portion of a document from a local data store; (a fragment getter is inherent to provide the information page to the rest of the system, otherwise the information page and its information would not be able to be processed.)

a processor invoked by the event dispatcher and configured to communicate with the fragment getter and configured to transform the document into a device specific format (various page

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renderers, one of which is invoked by the dispatcher to format the page (Col. 6, lines 12-14)); and

a client recognizer configured to receive information from a client device and to receive device profile information. (a client recognizer is inherent to perform step 30 as defined in the first paragraph of Col. 5, which discusses determining characteristics of the client.)

McCauley discloses all the limitations of claims 15-16 and 19-21 except for:

a fragmentation filter invoked by the event dispatcher configured to fragment the document into one or more parts for display by a client device based upon an availability of one or more resources at the client device.

Huttunen teaches:

a fragmentation filter invoked by the event dispatcher configured to fragment the document into one or more parts for display by a client device based upon an availability of one or more resources at the client device. ([0038] Partitioning agent 116 breaks the document into partitions (fragments) based off of rules from the user device, including its resources. See lines 30-33)).

the fragmentation filter further comprises:

a first fragmentation filter configured to manage caching of one or more fragments of the document and configured to perform a fragmentation of the document (Fig 4B, the node\_subprocess collects children and parent elements as it creates a fragment see [0085]); and

a fragmentation validation filter communicating with the first fragmentation filter configured to determine whether the fragments may be rendered on the client device without exceeding the resources of the client device, and if not, to enable further fragmentation by the first fragmentation filter.

(check\_big\_block\_subprocess 1500, which is used to determine whether further fragmentation is necessary, if so it passes the process back to various levels of processing, depending upon where in fragmentation execution is. See [0096]- [0097] as an example.)

a next filter to be executed is determined by a current filter being executed. ([0091]-[0092] is one example of this where the is\_header subprocess controls whether processing continues to the previous subprocess filter ([0092] lines 1-2) or whether it branches back to the node\_subprocess filter to continue processing on that level ([0092] lines 8-10).

the one or more filters are executed based upon filter configuration data stored in a filter configuration file. (Note in [0038] lines 30-32 state that the

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partitioning agent uses its own rules (filter configuration data) in addition to the annotation to perform fragmentation. It is inherent that these rules must be stored in a file.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the apparatus of McCauley with partitioning agent taught by Huttunen in order to improve the accessibility and usability of documents (Huttunen, [0041] lines 1-2).

13. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCauley and Huttunen as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of Reynolds et al. (CC/PP: A user side framework for content negotiation), hereafter Reynolds.

McCauley discloses generating a document, in Column 5, lines 14-17, where a document is converted into a stream document that is optimized for the requesting client. McCauley also discloses retrieving information from the client in the first paragraph of Column 5 as described in the above rejection of claim 16.

McCauley and Huttunen teach all the limitations of claim 17 except for the document being generated based upon user profile data.

Reynolds teaches a protocol that sends both user profile data and device profile data at the same time, note page 5, section 2 "Metadata and profiles" where the first set of items are user preferences.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify McCauley and Huttunen to include the protocol taught by

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Reynolds in order to more enhance content negotiation speed. (Reynolds, page 4, section 1.2 line 2).

14. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCauley and Huttunen as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of Schwerdtfeger.

McCauley and Huttunen teach all the limitations of claim 18 except for an image filter.

Schwerdtfeger teaches an image filter in Col. 6, lines 66-67 and Col. 7 lines 1-4 (images from one format are converted to another format).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify McCauley and Huttunen with the image filter as taught by Schwerdtfeger in order to allow the display of multiple types of images.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael E. Keefer whose telephone number is (571) 270-1591. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm, second Fridays 8am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frantz Jules can be reached on (571) 270-1808. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MEK 2/15/2007

FRANTZ JULES  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frantz', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.